Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended)   In a ~~computerized device~~<u>system for distributing presence information</u>, a method for allowing a content subscriber to access <u>the</u> presence information comprising:

receiving from the content subscriber on a one-to-one transmission channel, a subscription request for the presence information;

inserting an address within a notification message in response to receiving the subscription request, the address within the notification message directing the content subscriber to a one-to-many transmission channel to receive the presence information transmitted using the one-to-many transmission channel;

<u>inserting an address identifier within the notification message, the address identifier indicating an availability of the address within the notification message;</u>

transmitting the notification message to the content subscriber using the one-to-one transmission channel, the address of the notification message allowing the content subscriber to subscribe to the presence information using the one-to-many transmission channel;

<u>determining, by the content subscriber, a recognition of the address identifier;</u> and,

in accordance with <u>a recognition of the address identifier within</u> the notification message, subscribing to the presence information using the one-to-many transmission channel resulting in the content subscriber receiving the presence information from ~~the computerized device~~<u>a presence server of the system</u> by the one-to-many transmission channel.

2. (Canceled) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of inserting further comprises inserting an address identifier within the notification message, the address identifier indicating the availability of the address within the notification message.

3. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1 wherein the step of inserting comprises inserting a plurality of addresses within the notification message, each of the plurality

of addresses relating to the presence information transmitted using a corresponding one-to-many transmission channel.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~step of~~ receiving comprises receiving a plurality of subscription requests for the presence information from a plurality of content subscribers and further comprising:

detecting a size characteristic of the plurality of content subscribers;

comparing the size characteristic to a threshold condition; and

when the size characteristic of the plurality of content subscribers is greater than the threshold condition, the step of transmitting comprises transmitting the notification message to a portion of the content subscribers, the address of the notification message allowing the portion of the content subscribers to subscribe to the presence information using the one-to-many transmission channel.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4 further comprising:

transmitting a nullify notification message to a content subscriber subscribed to the presence information using the one-to-many transmission channel, the nullify notification message having a one-to-one address relating to the presence information transmitted using a one-to-one transmission channel; and

receiving a second subscription request from the content subscriber for the presence information using the one-to-one transmission channel.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving an unsubscribe message from the content subscriber in response to transmitting the notification message, the unsubscribe message indicating unsubscription from a one-to-one transmission channel for reception of the presence information and subscription to the one-to-many transmission channel for reception of the presence information.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein:

072255.000506\1031257.1

the ~~step of~~ inserting comprises inserting the address within the notification message in response to receiving the subscription request, the address relating to the presence information transmitted using a multicast transmission channel; and

the ~~step of~~ transmitting comprises transmitting the notification message to the content subscriber, the address of the notification message allowing the content subscriber to subscribe to the presence information using the multicast transmission channel.

8. (Currently amended)   A computerized device comprising:

at least one communications interface;

a controller; and

an interconnection mechanism coupling the at least one communications interface and the controller;

wherein the controller is configured to:

receive from [[the]]an associated content subscriber on a one-to-one transmission channel, a subscription request for the presence information;

insert an address within a notification message in response to receiving the subscription request, the address within the notification message directing the associated content subscriber to a one-to-many transmission channel to receive the presence information transmitted using the one-to-many transmission channel;

insert an address identifier within the notification message in response to receiving the subscription request, the address identifier indicating the availability of the address within the notification message;

transmit the notification message to the associated content subscriber using the one-to-one transmission channel, the address of the notification message allowing the associated content subscriber to subscribe to the presence information using the one-to-many transmission channel and allowing the associated content subscriber to determine a recognition of the address identifier; and,

~~subscribing~~subscribe, in accordance with the notification message, to a delivery of the presence information using the one-to-many transmission channel resulting in the associated content subscriber receiving the presence information from the computerized device by the one-to-many transmission channel.

9. (Canceled) The computerized device of claim 8 wherein the controller, when inserting, is configured to insert an address identifier within the notification message, the address identifier indicating the availability of the address within the notification message.

10. (Previously Presented)   The computerized device of claim 8 wherein the controller, when inserting, is configured to insert a plurality of addresses within the notification message, each of the plurality of addresses relating to the presence information transmitted using a corresponding one-to-many transmission channel.

11. (Currently amended)   The computerized device of claim 8 wherein the controller, when receiving, is configured to receive, via the at least one communications interface, a plurality of subscription requests for the presence information from a plurality of associated content subscribers and wherein the controller is further configured to:

   detect a size characteristic of the plurality of associated content subscribers;
   compare the size characteristic to a threshold condition; and

   when the size characteristic of the plurality of associated content subscribers is greater than the threshold condition, the controller, when transmitting, is configured to transmit, via the at least one communications interface, the notification message to a portion of the associated content subscribers, the address of the notification message allowing the portion of the associated content subscribers to subscribe to the presence information using the one-to-many transmission channel.

12. (Currently amended)   The computerized device of claim 11 wherein the controller is further configured to:

   transmit, via the at least one communications interface, a nullify notification message to aan associated content subscriber subscribed to the presence information using the one- to-many transmission channel the nullify notification message having a one-to-one address relating to the presence information transmitted using a one-to-one transmission channel; and

   receive, via the at least one communications interface, a second subscription request from the associated content subscriber for the presence information using the one-to-one transmission channel.

13. (Currently amended)   The computerized device of claim 8 wherein the controller is further configured to receive an unsubscribe message from the <u>associated</u> content subscriber in response to transmitting the notification message, the unsubscribe message indicating unsubscription from a one-to-one transmission channel for reception of the presence information and subscription to the one-to-many transmission channel for reception of the presence information.

14. (Currently amended)   The computerized device of claim 8 wherein the controller is configured to:

when inserting, insert the address within a notification message in response to receiving the subscription request, the address relating to the presence information transmitted using a multicast transmission channel; and

when transmitting, transmit the notification message to the <u>associated</u> content subscriber, the address of the notification message allowing the content subscriber to subscribe to the presence information using the multicast transmission channel.

15. (Currently amended)   A computer program product having a computer-readable medium including computer program logic encoded thereon that, when performed on a controller in a ~~computerized device~~<u>system</u> having a coupling to at least one communications interface provides a method for <u>allowing a content subscriber to access presence information by</u> performing<u>, by the computer program product,</u> the operations of:

receiving on a one-to-one transmission channel from the content subscriber, a subscription request for the presence information;

inserting an address <u>and an address identifier</u> within a notification message in response to receiving the subscription request, the address within the notification message directing the content subscriber to a one-to-many transmission channel to receive the presence information transmitted using the one-to-many transmission channel<u>, and the address identifier within the notification message indicating an availability of the address within the notification message</u>;

transmitting the notification message to the content subscriber using the one-to-one transmission channel, the address of the notification message allowing the content subscriber to

subscribe to the presence information using the one-to-many transmission channel based on the content subscriber recognizing the address identifier; and,

in accordance with a recognizing of the address identifier within the notification message by the content subscriber, subscribing to a delivery of the presence information using the one-to-many transmission channel resulting in the content subscriber receiving the presence information ~~from the computerized device~~ by the one-to-many transmission channel.

16. (Currently amended)   A ~~computerized device~~system for distributing presence information from a presence server to a content subscriber, the system comprising:

~~at least one communications interface;~~

~~a controller; and~~

~~an interconnection mechanism coupling the at least one communications interface and the controller;~~

~~wherein the computerized device is configured to allow a content subscriber to access presence information, such means including:~~

means for receiving, from the content subscriber on a one-to-one transmission channel, a subscription request for the presence information;

means for inserting an address and an address identifier within a notification message in response to receiving the subscription request, the address within the notification message directing the content subscriber to a one-to-many transmission channel to receive the presence information transmitted using a one-to-many transmission channel and the address identifier indicating an availability of the address within the notification message;

means for transmitting the notification message to the content subscriber using the one-to-one transmission channel, the address of the notification message allowing the content subscriber to subscribe to the presence information using the one-to-many transmission channel;

means for recognizing, by the content subscriber, the address identifier; and,

means for subscribing to a delivery of the presence information using the one-to-many transmission channel in accordance with the content subscriber recognizing the address identifier within the notification message resulting in the content subscriber receiving the presence information from the ~~computerized device~~presence server by the one-to-many transmission channel.

17. (Currently amended)   In a content subscriber, a method for accessing presence information comprising:

transmitting a first subscription request for the presence information to [[a]]an associated computerized device;

receiving, in response to transmitting the subscription request, a notification message from the associated computerized device, the notification message including an address directing the content subscriber to a one-to-many transmission channel to receive the presence information transmitted using the one-to-many transmission channel, and the notification message including an address identifier indicating the availability of the address within the notification message;

determining a recognizing of the address identifier within the notification message; and

based on the recognizing of the address identifier in the notification message, transmitting a second subscription request for the presence information using the one-to-many transmission channel[[;]] wherein transmission of the second subscription request results in receiving the presence information from the associated computerized device by the one-to-many transmission channel.

18. (Currently amended)   The method of claim 17 ~~wherein the step of receiving further comprises receiving an address identifier within the notification message, the address identifier indicating the availability of the address within the notification message and~~ further comprising:

examining the address identifier; ~~when identifying the address identifier in response to examining, utilizing the address to transmit the second subscription request for the presence information using the one-to-many transmission channel;~~ and

~~when not identifying the address identifier in response to examining,~~ disregarding the address based on a non-recognizing of the address identifier, wherein the presence information is received from the associated computerized device by the one-to-many transmission channel.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17 further comprising transmitting an unsubscribe message to the presence server in response to receiving the notification message, the unsubscribe message indicating unsubscription from a one-to-one transmission channel for reception of the

072255.000506\1031257.1

presence information and subscription to the one-to-many transmission channel for reception of the presence information.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the step of receiving comprises receiving a notification message from the computerized device, the notification message having a plurality of addresses, each of the plurality of addresses relating to the presence information transmitted using a corresponding one-to-many transmission channel and further comprising selecting a one-to-many transmission channel for reception of the presence information.

21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17 wherein:

the ~~step of~~ receiving comprises receiving, in response to transmitting the subscription request, a notification message from the computerized device, the notification message having an address relating to the presence information transmitted using a multicast transmission channel; and

the ~~step of~~ transmitting a second subscription request comprises transmitting the second subscription request for the presence information using the multicast transmission channel.

22. (Currently amended) A content subscriber comprising:
at least one communications interface;
a controller; and
an interconnection mechanism coupling the at least one communications interface and the controller;
wherein the controller is configured to:

transmit, via the at least one communications interface, a first subscription request for presence information to [[a]]an associated computerized device;

receive, via the at least one communications interface, in response to transmitting the subscription request, a notification message from the associated computerized device, the notification message having an address directing the content subscriber to a one-to-many transmission channel to receive the presence information transmitted using the one-to-many transmission channel, and the

notification message having an address identifier indicating the availability of the
address within the notification message;

determine a recognition of the address identifier; and

in accordance with determining the recognition of the address identifier in
the notification message, transmit, via the at least one communications interface, a
second subscription request for the presence information using the one-to-many
transmission channel;

wherein transmission of the second subscription request results in
receiving the presence information from the associated computerized device by
the one-to-many transmission channel.

23. (Currently amended)   The content subscriber of claim 22 wherein the controller,
when receiving, is further configured to receive, via the at least one communications interface,
an address identifier within the notification message, the address identifier indicating the
availability of the address within the notification message, computerized device further
configured to:

examine the address identifier; when identifying the address identifier in response to
examining, utilize the address to transmit the second subscription request for the presence
information using the one-to-many transmission channel; and

when not identifying the address identifier in response to examining, disregard the
address in accordance with determining a non-recognition of the address identifier, wherein
transmission of a subscription request results in receiving the presence information from the
associated computerized device by the one-to-one channel.

24. (Previously Presented)   The content subscriber of claim 22 wherein the controller,
when receiving, is configured to receive, via the at least one communications interface, a
notification message from the first computerized device, each of the plurality of addresses
relating to the presence information transmitted using a corresponding one- to-many
transmission channel and wherein the controller is further configured to select a one-to-many
transmission channel for reception of the presence information.

25. (Original) The content subscriber of claim 22 wherein the controller is further configured to transmit an unsubscribe message to the presence server in response to receiving the notification message, the unsubscribe message indicating unsubscription from a one-to-one transmission channel for reception of the presence information and subscription to the one-to-many transmission channel for reception of the presence information.

26. (Previously Presented)   The content subscriber of claim 22 wherein the controller:

when receiving, is configured to receive, in response to transmitting the subscription request, a notification message from the computerized device, the notification message having an address relating to the presence information transmitted using a multicast transmission channel; and

when transmitting, is configured to transmit a second subscription request for presence information using the multicast transmission channel.

27. (Currently amended)   A computer program product having a computer-readable medium including computer program logic encoded thereon that, when performed on a controller in a computerized device-having a coupling to at least one communications interface provides a method for performing the operations of:

transmitting a first subscription request for [[the]] presence information to [[a]]an associated computerized device;

receiving, in response to transmitting the subscription request, a notification message from the associated computerized device, the notification message having an address directing a content subscriber to a one-to-many transmission channel to receive presence information transmitted using the one-to-many transmission channel, and the notification message having an address identifier indicating an availability of the address within the notification message;

determining a recognizing of the address identifier; and

transmitting a second subscription request for the presence information using the one-to-many transmission channel in accordance with a recognizing of the address [[in]]identifier within the notification message[[;]], wherein transmission of the second subscription request results in receiving the presence information from the associated computerized device by the one-to-many transmission channel.

28. (Currently amended)   A content subscriber comprising:

at least one communications interface;

a controller; and

an interconnection mechanism coupling the at least one communications interface and the controller;

wherein the ~~computerized device is configured to produce a means for accessing presence information, such means including~~controller includes:

means for transmitting, via the at least one communications interface, a first subscription request for the presence information to [[a]]an associated computerized device configured to produce a means for accessing presence information;

means for receiving, via the at least one communications interface and in response to transmitting the subscription request, a notification message from the associated computerized device, the notification message having an address directing [[a]]the content subscriber to a one-to-many transmission channel to receive the presence information transmitted by the associated computerized device using the one-to-many transmission channel, and the notification message having an address identifier indicating an availability of the address within the notification message;

means for identifying the address identifier as an identified address; and

means for transmitting, via the at least one communications interface, a second subscription request for the presence information using the one-to-many transmission channel in accordance with the address in the notification message being identified as an identified address[[;]], wherein transmission of the second subscription request results in receiving the presence information from the associated computerized device by the one-to-many transmission channel.

29. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 6 comprising:

tracking the number of content subscribers using one-to-one transmission channel and the number of content subscribers using one-to-many transmission channel based on the number of unsubscribe messages received; and

balancing distribution of presence information between the one-to-one transmission channel and the one-to-many transmission channel based on the number of content subscribers using each channel.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein each address within the notification message includes a tag indicating a particular communications protocol and wherein the content subscriber is configured to communicate according to the communications protocol identified by said tag such that multiple protocols are utilizable by a plurality of independently-implemented content subscribers.

32. (Previously Presented) The computerized device of claim 8 wherein each address within the notification message includes a tag indicating a particular communications protocol and wherein the content subscriber is configured to communicate according to the communications protocol identified by said tag such that multiple protocols are utilizable by a plurality of independently-implemented content subscribers.